

**SPX Orange** – 10/ 130 after 30 Overs

St Augustine's Green – 9/102 after 30 Overs

SPX Orange win by 28 runs .

With the College back for 2020, cricket returned to Saturday mornings across the Manly Warringah

district with SPX Orange back on deck for a game against one of its traditional rivals in St Augustine's. This week's match against St Augustine's Green saw the team back at Tania Park North

Balgowlah on what was expected to be another hot and vey humid day.

With very high temperatures expected by midday , St Augustine's had no hesitation in sending SPX

Orange into bat on a pitch that had been damaged by vandals over the summer break and where the

grass in the outfield was well overdue for a mow. With both umpires agreeing that batting was only

possible from one end, the game begin with SPX Orange reverse its batting order so that many of its

bowlers could get valuable time at the batting crease prior to the more important games at the back

end of the season.

This move did not produce the expected consistency in the batting as what has been evident earlier

in the season, with the SPX Orange loosing wickets very early and scoring 4/46 at the 15 over mark.

This early batting collapse was saved by a strong showing at the crease from Oliver Hunt with the bat

( instead of the ball as we had been accustomed to ) , with Oliver eventually retiring not out at the

end of the innings with 24 n.o.

The second half of the SPX Orange innings was helped from a fruitful partnership between Will

Staber and Jake Socrates, with each sending the ball to all parts of the boundary. Will Staber batted

like he was in a hurry to score by dispatching boundary after boundary and only troubling the scorers in boundaries at one stage. Jake was his usual methodical self, building his innings whilst also

showing some skills picked up from watching the BBL. With the innings closing on the last ball of the

50th over, SPX Orange reached a respectable total of 130, with Oliver Hunt, Will Staber and Jake

Socrates best with the bat on the day.

With temperatures now in the 30 degrees at just after 10.00 am, SPX took to the field with an usual

bowling attack however just as productive as what the Keenlyside & Hunt combination had delivered

earlier in the season. With St Augustine's at 5/51 at the half way mark, and our express bowlers yet

to start, credit goes to Nick Green (1/3), Will Ramsbottom (1/11), Justin Park (1/10) and James

Maloney (1/7) for contributing to those early wickets. The return of our express bowlers late in the

innings saw a comfortable win achieved by SPX Orange , with St Augustine's closing their innings at

102 runs after 30 overs and Oliver Hunt completing a man of the match performance by also taking

2/13 from his three overs.

A nice match to shake off the cobwebs from the summary break for SPX Orange as it looks to

consolidate its position at the top of the division.

Tony DiMauro

### **SPX Yellow - round 11 match report.**

One day Match 30 overs, 1 Feb 2020

St.Pius won the toss and elected to bat scoring 9/45 in 22 overs def by Harbord 4 / 49 in 18 overs at

Nolans Reserve.

Batting first on a hot Saturday morning after a 7 week of holiday break was always going to be a bit

testing against the ladder leaders.

Rubbing sleep from the eyes and a steady fall of wickets, with less than enthusiastic running in the

summer heat, saw us produce our lowest score of the season.

Tom Lough was the only player to reach double figures with a score of 16.

Throw in 5 speedy ducks, and it ensured an early finish before the real heat of the day set in.

Cricket can be a funny game at times, and with the opposition at 3-3, we were hoping that we might

just have had the last laugh.

A great opening spell from Declan Carroll 3/8 off 4 overs & Mitch Mcgrath 0/6 off 4 gave us a glimmer.

Declan was particularly sharp, bowling nice and full, right at the stumps.

However as the morning rolled on and the heat began to build, the boys' energy in the field started

to wane.

Pat Frost 1/6 off 3 snared a wicket as the ladder leaders cruised to a comfortable victory in the

18over.

Sadly, twas a game that didn't rise to any great heights.

Still, looking on the bright side, we were at the beach earlier than usual and a much shorter match

report is required.